FUNCTIONAL MATERIALS FOR USE IN OPTICAL SYSTEMS

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CLAIMS

We claim:

- 1 1. A functional optical material for use in an optical system, comprising:
- 2 (a) a polymer selected from the group comprising,
- 3 (1) a thermoplastic polymer;
- 4 (2) a thermosetting polymer; and
- 5 (3) a combination of thermoplastic and thermosetting polymers;
- 6 wherein said thermoplastic and/or thermosetting polymers contain
- 7 carbon-hydrogen and/or carbon-fluoride functionality; and
- 8 (b) one or more optically active chromophores blended and/or copolymerized
- 9 with said polymer;
- 10 (c) a compatibilizer copolymerized with said polymer of step (a), having one
- or more pendant groups selected from the group consisting of nitriles, esters,
- 12 aromatics; fluorinated esters, and fluorinated aromatics; and
- (d) an adhesion promoter copolymerized with said polymer of step (a), having
- one or more pendant groups selected from the group consisting of nitriles,
- silanes, fluorinated silanes, organic acids; fluorinated organic acids, alcohols,
- 16 fluorinated alcohols, amides, and amines; and
- wherein when a compatibilizer with one particular pendant group is selected,
- an adhesion promoter with a different pendant group is selected.
- 1 2. The functional optical material according to Claim 1, wherein said
- thermoplastic and/or thermosetting polymer is selected from the group
- 3 consisting of acrylics /methacrylics; copolymers of acrylic acid esters,
- 4 methacrylic acid esters, and other single unsaturated monomers; polyesters;
- 5 polyurethanes; polyimides; polyamides; polyphosphazenes; epoxy resin; and
- 6 hybrid (organic-inorganic) or nanocomposite polyester polymers.

- 1 3. The functional optical material according to Claim 1, wherein said
- 2 thermoplastic polymer is selected from the group consisting of
- 3 acrylics/methacrylics (copolymers of esters of acrylic and methacrylic acid
- 4 where the alcohol portion of the ester can be based on hydrocarbon, or
- 5 partially or fully fluorinated alkyl chains); polyesters (where the diacid or diol
- 6 can contain carbon-hydrogen aliphatic, aromatic or carbon-fluorine
- 7 functionality); polyurethanes (where the diisocyanate can be aliphatic or
- 8 aromatic and the diol can contain carbon-hydrogen or carbon-fluorine
- 9 functionality); polyimides where the acid, amine, or diamine can be partially
- or fully fluorinated; polyamides (where the diacid or diamine can contain
- carbon hydrogen aliphatic, aromatic or carbon-fluorine functionality);
- polyphosphazenes (where the polyphosphazene backbone structure can
- contain fluorinated aromatic or aliphatic functional groups, as well as, carbon-
- 14 hydrogen functionality); epoxy resin (where the epoxy resin can contain
- 15 carbon-hydrogen or carbon-fluorine functionality0 which can further be
- reacted with diacids or anhydrides (that also contain carbon-hydrogen or
- carbon-fluorine functionality); and hybrid (organic-inorganic) or
- 18 nanocomposite polyester polymers (where the polyester component consists
- 19 of aliphatic, aromatic carbon hydrogen or carbon-fluorine functionality and the
- 20 inorganic components are based on silane or organometallic materials such as
- 21 titanates, zirconates and other multivalent metal organics).
- 1 4. The functional optical material according to Claim 1, wherein functional
- 2 optical material has a glass transition temperature above 100°C.
- 1 5. The functional optical material according to Claim 1, wherein said
- 2 functional optical material has a refractive index value of less than about 1.5.
- 1 6. The functional optical material according to Claim 1, wherein said
- 2 functional optical material has a refractive index value of greater than or
- 3 equal to about 1.5.

- 1 7. The functional optical material according to Claim 1, wherein said
- 2 functional optical material has between 0.1 and 10% of a promoter having an
- adhesive promotion group, or combination of adhesive promotion groups.
- 1 8. The functional optical material according to Claim 1, wherein said
- 2 compatibilizer has nitrile, ester, fluorinated ester, and fluorinated aromatic
- 3 groups.
- 1 9. The functional optical material according to Claim 1, wherein said
- 2 adhesion promoter has nitrile, silane, fluorinated silane, organic acid;
- 3 fluorinated organic acid, alcohol, and fluorinated alcohol groups.
- 1 10. The functional optical material according to Claim 1, wherein
- 2 monomers are included that provide water resistance by having styrene
- 3 and/or cycloaliphatic groups.
- 1 11. The functional optical material according to Claim 1, wherein said said
- 2 functional optical material has between 0.1 and 20% of one or more
- 3 compatibilizers for said one or more chromophores.
- 1 12. The functional optical material according to Claim 1, wherein there is
- 2 less than 5 wt.% of hydrogen in the monomer repeat unit and other units of
- 3 the functional optical material).
- 1 13. The functional optical material according to Claim 1, wherein said
- 2 functional optical material has less than 2% water absorption according to a
- 3 24 hour water immersion test.
- 1 14. The functional optical material according to Claim 1, wherein said
- 2 functional optical material requires less than 100 volts per micron of film
- 3 thickness to pole said functional optical material.

- 1 15. The functional material according to Claim 1, wherein a compatibilizer
- 2 is selected having a nitrile group, and an adhesion promoter is selected
- 3 having a silane group.
- 1 16. The functional optical material according to Claim 1, wherein said one
- 2 or more optically active chromophores is (are) selected from the group
- 3 consisting of a substituted aniline, substituted azobenzene, substituted
- 4 stilbene, or substituted imine.
- 1 17. The functional optical material according to Claim 16, wherein said one
- 2 or more optically active chromophores are selected from substituted anilines
- 3 comprising:
- 4 first substituted anilines,

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$$X_1$$
 X_2
 X_3

$$X_4$$
 X_3
 X_4
 X_4
 X_4
 X_4
 X_4
 X_4
 X_5
 X_6

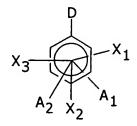
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- Wherein D = donor = $-NH_2$, $-N(CH_3)_2$, $-N(CH_2CH_3)_2$, or $-N(Y)_2$ where Y =
- alkyl alcohols, alkyl (hydrocarbon fluorocarbon) esters, or alkyl silane
- 12 derivatives;

- 14 A = acceptor = $-NO_2$, $-C(CN)C(CN)_2$, or -N=C(R1)(R2), wherein $R_1 = CF_3$,
- 15 C_2F_5 , C_nF_{2n+1} , $R_2 = H$, CH_3 , CF_3 , C_2F_5

- wherein when $A = -NO_2$, or $-C(CN)C(CN)_2$, then X_1 , X_2 , X_3 , X_4 are each
- 17 independently selected from the group -F and -H, and at least one -F is
- selected, and when A = -N=C(R1)(R2), wherein $R_1 = CF_3$, C_2F_5 , C_nF_{2n+1} , $R_2 =$
- 19 H, CH₃, CF₃, C₂F₅, then X₁, X₂, X₃, X₄ are each independently selected from
- 20 the group -F and -H;

22 or second substituted anilines,



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- Wherein D = donor = $-NH_2$, $-N(CH_3)_2$, $-N(CH_2CH_3)_2$, or $-N(Y)_2$ where Y =
- 25 alkyl alcohols, alkyl (hydrocarbon or fluorocarbon) esters, or alkyl silane
- 26 derivatives;

27

- 28 A_1 = primary acceptor = $-NO_2$, $-C(CN)C(CN)_2$, or -N=C(R1)(R2), where
- 29 $R_1 = CF_3$, C_2F_5 , C_nF_{2n+1} , $R_2 = H$, CH_3 , CF_3 , C_2F_5

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31 A_2 = secondary acceptor = -CN, or $-CF_3$

32

wherein X_1 , X_2 , X_3 are each independently selected from the group -F and -H;

- and wherein A_1 can be the same as A_2 , wherein two identical or different
- 36 acceptors may be selected from group A1 or two identical or different
- 37 acceptors may be selected from group A₂, so that when acceptors are
- selected from $-NO_2$, $-C(CN)C(CN)_2$, -CN, or $-CF_3$, then X_1 , X_2 , X_3 are each
- 39 independently selected from the group -F and -H, and at least one -F is
- selected; and if at least one acceptor is selected as -N=C (R1)(R2), where
- 41 $R_1 = CF_3$, C_2F_5 , C_nF_{2n+1} , $R_2 = H$, CH_3 , CF_3 , C_2F_5 , then X_1 , X_2 , X_3 are each
- independently selected from the group -F and -H.

- 1 18. The functional optical material according to Claim 16, wherein said one
- 2 or more optically active chromophores is (are) selected from substituted
- 3 azobenzenes comprising:
- 4 first substituted azobenzenes,

- 7 Wherein D = donor = $-NH_2$, $-N(CH_3)_2$, $-N(CH_2CH_3)_2$, or $-N(Y)_2$ where Y =
- 8 alkyl alcohols, alkyl (hydrocarbon fluorocarbon) esters, or alkyl silane
- 9 derivatives;

10

- 11 A = acceptor = $-NO_2$, $-C(CN)C(CN)_2$, or -N=C(R1)(R2), wherein $R_1 = CF_3$,
- 12 C_2F_5 , C_nF_{2n+1} , $R_2 = H$, CH_3 , CF_3 , C_2F_5
- wherein when $A = -NO_2$, or $-C(CN)C(CN)_2$, then X_1 , X_2 , X_3 , X_4 are each
- independently selected from the group -F and -H, and at least one -F is
- selected, and when A = -N=C(R1)(R2), wherein $R_1 = CF_3$, C_2F_5 , C_nF_{2n+1} , $R_2 =$
- 16 H, CH₃, CF₃, C_2F_5 , then X_1 , X_2 , X_3 , X_4 are each independently selected from
- 17 the group -F and -H;

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19 or second substituted azobenzenes,

$$D \xrightarrow{H} H X_3 A_2$$

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Wherein D = donor = $-NH_2$, $-N(CH_3)_2$, $-N(CH_2CH_3)_2$, or $-N(Y)_2$ where Y =

alkyl alcohols, alkyl (hydrocarbon or fluorocarbon) esters, or alkyl silane

26 derivatives;

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primary acceptor = $-NO_2$, $-C(CN)C(CN)_2$, or -N=C(R1)(R2), where $R_1=$

29 CF_3 , C_2F_5 , C_nF_{2n+1} , $R_2 = H$, CH_3 , CF_3 , C_2F_5

30

secondary acceptor = -CN, or $-CF_3$

- wherein if A_1 and A_2 are both primary acceptors selected from $-NO_2$, or
- $-C(CN)C(CN)_2$, then X_1 , X_2 , X_3 are each independently selected from -F and -
- 35 H, but at least one -F must be selected;
- wherein if A_1 and A_2 are both secondary acceptors selected from $-NO_2$, or
- $-C(CN)C(CN)_2$, then X_1 , X_2 , X_3 are each independently selected from -F and -
- 38 H, but at least one -F must be selected;
- wherein if A_1 and/or A_2 are selected from the primary acceptor -N=C
- 40 (R1)(R2), where $R_1 = CF_3$, C_2F_5 , C_nF_{2n+1} , $R_2 = H$, CH_3 , CF_3 , C_2F_5 , then X_1 , X_2 , X_3
- are each independently selected from -F and -H; and
- 42 wherein if A₁ is selected from any primary acceptor, and A₂ is selected from
- any secondary acceptor, then X₁, X₂, X₃ are each independently selected from
- 44 -F and -H.
- 1 19. The functional optical material according to Claim 16, wherein said one
- or more optically active chromophores is (are) selected from substituted
- 3 stilbenes comprising:

4 first substituted stilbenes,

5 6

- 7 Wherein D = donor = $-NH_2$, $-N(CH_3)_2$, $-N(CH_2CH_3)_2$, or $-N(Y)_2$ where Y =
- 8 alkyl alcohols, alkyl (hydrocarbon fluorocarbon) esters, or alkyl silane
- 9 derivatives;

10

- 11 A = acceptor = $-NO_2$, $-C(CN)C(CN)_2$, or -N=C(R1)(R2), wherein $R_1=CF_3$,
- 12 C_2F_5 , C_nF_{2n+1} , $R_2 = H$, CH_3 , CF_3 , C_2F_5
- wherein when $A = -NO_2$, or $-C(CN)C(CN)_2$, then X_1 , X_2 , X_3 , X_4 are each
- independently selected from the group -F and -H, and at least one -F is
- selected, and when A = -N=C(R1)(R2), wherein $R_1 = CF_3$, C_2F_5 , C_nF_{2n+1} , $R_2 =$
- 16 H, CH₃, CF₃, C_2F_5 , then X_1 , X_2 , X_3 , X_4 are each independently selected from
- 17 the group -F and -H;

18

19 or second substituted stilbenes,

$$D \xrightarrow{H} CH = CH \xrightarrow{X_1} A_1$$

$$X_2$$

- Wherein D = donor = $-NH_2$, $-N(CH_3)_2$, $-N(CH_2CH_3)_2$, or $-N(Y)_2$ where Y =
- 22 alkyl alcohols, alkyl (hydrocarbon or fluorocarbon) esters, or alkyl silane
- 23 derivatives;

- primary acceptor = $-NO_2$, $-C(CN)C(CN)_2$, or -N=C(R1)(R2), where $R_1=$
- 26 CF_3 , C_2F_5 , C_nF_{2n+1} , $R_2 = H$, CH_3 , CF_3 , C_2F_5

27

secondary acceptor = -CN, or $-CF_3$

29

- wherein if A_1 and A_2 are both primary acceptors selected from $-NO_2$, or
- $-C(CN)C(CN)_2$, then X_1 , X_2 , X_3 are each independently selected from -F and -
- 32 H, but at least one -F must be selected;
- wherein if A_1 and A_2 are both secondary acceptors selected from $-NO_2$, or
- $-C(CN)C(CN)_2$, then X_1 , X_2 , X_3 are each independently selected from -F and -
- 35 H, but at least one -F must be selected;
- wherein if A_1 and/or A_2 are selected from the primary acceptor -N=C
- 37 (R1)(R2), where $R_1 = CF_3$, C_2F_5 , C_nF_{2n+1} , $R_2 = H$, CH_3 , CF_3 , C_2F_5 , then X_1 , X_2 , X_3
- 38 are each independently selected from -F and -H; and
- wherein if A_1 is selected from any primary acceptor, and A_2 is selected from
- any secondary acceptor, then X_1 , X_2 , X_3 are each independently selected from
- 41 -F and -H.
- 1 20. The functional optical material according to Claim 16, wherein said one
- 2 or more optically active chromophores is (are) selected from substituted
- 3 imines comprising:
- 4 first substituted imines,

DHH H
$$X_1$$
 X_2 A

H H X_4 X_3

$$D \xrightarrow{H} H X_1 X_2$$

$$X_1 X_2 X_3$$

8 Wherein D = donor = $-NH_2$, $-N(CH_3)_2$, $-N(CH_2CH_3)_2$, or $-N(Y)_2$ where Y =

9 alkyl alcohols, alkyl (hydrocarbon fluorocarbon) esters, or alkyl silane

10 derivatives;

11

12 A = acceptor = $-NO_2$, $-C(CN)C(CN)_2$, or -N=C(R1)(R2), wherein $R_1=CF_3$,

13 C_2F_5 , C_nF_{2n+1} , $R_2 = H$, CH_3 , CF_3 , C_2F_5

wherein when $A = -NO_2$, or $-C(CN)C(CN)_2$, then X_1 , X_2 , X_3 , X_4 are each

independently selected from the group -F and -H, and at least one -F is

selected, and when A = -N=C(R1)(R2), wherein $R_1 = CF_3$, C_2F_5 , C_nF_{2n+1} , $R_2 =$

17 H, CH₃, CF₃, C_2F_5 , then X_1 , X_2 , X_3 , X_4 are each independently selected from

18 the group -F and -H;

19

20 or second substituted imines,

$$D \xrightarrow{H} CH = N \xrightarrow{X_1 \\ X_2 \\ X_3 \\ A_2}$$

22

23

- Wherein D = donor = $-NH_2$, $-N(CH_3)_2$, $-N(CH_2CH_3)_2$, or $-N(Y)_2$ where Y =
- 25 alkyl alcohols, alkyl (hydrocarbon or fluorocarbon) esters, or alkyl silane
- 26 derivatives;

27

- primary acceptor = $-NO_2$, $-C(CN)C(CN)_2$, or -N=C(R1)(R2), where $R_1=$
- 29 CF_3 , C_2F_5 , C_nF_{2n+1} , $R_2 = H$, CH_3 , CF_3 , C_2F_5

30

secondary acceptor = -CN, or $-CF_3$

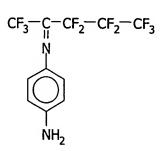
- wherein if A_1 and A_2 are both primary acceptors selected from $-NO_2$, or
- $-C(CN)C(CN)_2$, then X_1 , X_2 , X_3 are each independently selected from -F and -
- 35 H, but at least one -F must be selected;
- wherein if A_1 and A_2 are both secondary acceptors selected from $-NO_2$, or
- $-C(CN)C(CN)_2$, then X_1 , X_2 , X_3 are each independently selected from -F and -
- 38 H, but at least one -F must be selected;
- wherein if A_1 and/or A_2 are selected from the primary acceptor -N=C
- 40 (R1)(R2), where $R_1 = CF_3$, C_2F_5 , C_nF_{2n+1} , $R_2 = H$, CH_3 , CF_3 , C_2F_5 , then X_1 , X_2 , X_3
- 41 are each independently selected from -F and -H; and

- 42 wherein if A_1 is selected from any primary acceptor, and A_2 is selected from
- any secondary acceptor, then X_1 , X_2 , X_3 are each independently selected from
- 44 -F and -H.
- 1 21. The functional optical material according to Claim 16, wherein one of
- 2 said optically active chromophores comprises:

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- 1 22. The functional optical material according to Claim 16, wherein one of
- 2 said optically active chromophores comprises:

3



- 1 23. The functional optical material according to Claim 16, wherein said
- 2 compatibilizer has a nitrile group, and said one or more optically active
- 3 chromophores are selected from conventional substituted anilines comprising:

$$X_4$$
 X_3
 X_2
 X_3
 X_4
 X_4
 X_5
 X_7

- 5 Wherein D = donor = $-NH_2$, $-N(CH_3)_2$, $-N(CH_2CH_3)_2$, or $-N(Y)_2$ where Y =
- 6 alkyl alcohols, alkyl (hydrocarbon fluorocarbon) esters, or alkyl silane
- 7 derivatives;

8

9 A = acceptor = $-NO_2$, or $-C(CN)C(CN)_2$, and

10

wherein X_1 , X_2 , X_3 , X_4 are each -H.

wherein $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \lambda_3, \lambda_4$ are each -i

- 1 24. The functional optical material according to Claim 16, wherein said one
- 2 or more optically active chromophores is (are) selected from conventional
- 3 substituted azobenzenes comprising:

4

- 6 Wherein D = donor = $-NH_2$, $-N(CH_3)_2$, $-N(CH_2CH_3)_2$, or $-N(Y)_2$ where Y =
- 7 alkyl alcohols, alkyl (hydrocarbon fluorocarbon) esters, or alkyl silane
- 8 derivatives;

10 A = acceptor =
$$-NO_2$$
, or $-C(CN)C(CN)_2$, and

wherein X_1 , X_2 , X_3 , X_4 are each -H.

- 1 25. The functional optical material according to Claim 16, wherein said one
- 2 or more optically active chromophores is (are) selected from conventional
- 3 substituted stilbenes comprising:

4

5

- Wherein D = donor = $-NH_2$, $-N(CH_3)_2$, $-N(CH_2CH_3)_2$, or $-N(Y)_2$ where Y =
- 7 alkyl alcohols, alkyl (hydrocarbon fluorocarbon) esters, or alkyl silane
- 8 derivatives;

9

10 A = acceptor = $-NO_2$, or $-C(CN)C(CN)_2$, and

11

- wherein X_1 , X_2 , X_3 , X_4 are each -H.
- 1 26. The functional optical material according to Claim 16, wherein said one
- 2 or more optically active chromophores is (are) selected from conventional
- 3 substituted imines comprising:

DHH H
$$X_1$$
 X_2 A X_3 A X_4 X_3 A X_4 X_3 A X_4 X_4 X_3 A X_4 X_4 X_4 X_4 X_4 X_5 A X_4 X_4 X_5 A X_4 X_4 X_5 A X_4 X_5 A X_4 X_5 A X_4 X_5 A X_5 A X_5 A X_6 A X_7 A X_8 A

- 7 Wherein D = donor = $-NH_2$, $-N(CH_3)_2$, $-N(CH_2CH_3)_2$, or $-N(Y)_2$ where Y =
- 8 alkyl alcohols, alkyl (hydrocarbon fluorocarbon) esters, or alkyl silane
- 9 derivatives;

10

11 A = acceptor = $-NO_2$, or $-C(CN)C(CN)_2$, and

- wherein X_1 , X_2 , X_3 , X_4 are each -H.
- 1 27. A functional optical material for use in an optical system, comprising:
- 2 (a) a polymer selected from the group comprising,
- 3 (1) a thermoplastic polymer;
- 4 (2) a thermosetting polymer; and

- 5 (3) a combination of thermoplastic and thermosetting polymers;
- 6 wherein said thermoplastic and/or thermosetting polymers contain
- 7 carbon-hydrogen and/or carbon-fluoride functionality; and
- 8 (b) one or more optically active chromophores blended and/or copolymerized
- 9 with said polymer, wherein said chromophore comprises:
- 10 first substituted anilines

$$X_4$$
 X_1
 X_3
 X_2
 X_3
 X_4
 X_5
 X_7

- Wherein D = donor = $-NH_2$, $-N(CH_3)_2$, $-N(CH_2CH_3)_2$, or $-N(Y)_2$ where Y =
- 13 alkyl alcohols, alkyl (hydrocarbon fluorocarbon) esters, or alkyl silane
- 14 derivatives;

15

- 16 A = acceptor = $-NO_2$, $-C(CN)C(CN)_2$, or -N=C(R1)(R2), wherein $R_1=CF_3$,
- 17 C_2F_5 , C_nF_{2n+1} , $R_2 = H$, CH_3 , CF_3 , C_2F_5
- wherein when $A = -NO_2$, or $-C(CN)C(CN)_2$, then X_1 , X_2 , X_3 , X_4 are each
- independently selected from the group -F and -H, and at least one -F is
- selected, and when A = -N=C(R1)(R2), wherein $R_1 = CF_3$, C_2F_5 , C_nF_{2n+1} , $R_2 =$
- 21 H, CH₃, CF₃, C_2F_5 , then X_1 , X_2 , X_3 , X_4 are each independently selected from
- 22 the group -F and -H;

23

24 or second substituted anilines,

25

- Wherein D = donor = $-NH_2$, $-N(CH_3)_2$, $-N(CH_2CH_3)_2$, or $-N(Y)_2$ where Y =
- alkyl alcohols, alkyl (hydrocarbon or fluorocarbon) esters, or alkyl silane
- 29 derivatives;

- 31 $A_1 = \text{primary acceptor} = -NO_2$, $-C(CN)C(CN)_2$, or -N=C(R1)(R2), where
- 32 $R_1 = CF_3$, C_2F_5 , C_nF_{2n+1} , $R_2 = H$, CH_3 , CF_3 , C_2F_5

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34 A_2 = secondary acceptor = -CN, or -CF₃

35 .

wherein X_1 , X_2 , X_3 are each independently selected from the group -F and -H;

- and wherein A_1 can be the same as A_2 , wherein two identical or different
- 39 acceptors may be selected from group A1 or two identical or different
- 40 acceptors may be selected from group A2, so that when acceptors are
- selected from $-NO_2$, $-C(CN)C(CN)_2$, -CN, or $-CF_3$, then X_1 , X_2 , X_3 are each
- 42 independently selected from the group -F and -H, and at least one -F is
- selected; and if at least one acceptor is selected as -N=C (R1)(R2), where
- 44 $R_1 = CF_3$, C_2F_5 , C_nF_{2n+1} , $R_2 = H$, CH_3 , CF_3 , C_2F_5 , then X_1 , X_2 , X_3 are each
- 45 independently selected from the group -F and -H.
- 1 28. A functional optical material for use in an optical system, comprising:
- 2 (a) a polymer selected from the group comprising,
- 3 (1) a thermoplastic polymer;
- 4 (2) a thermosetting polymer; and
- 5 (3) a combination of thermoplastic and thermosetting polymers;
- 6 wherein said thermoplastic and/or thermosetting polymers contain
- 7 carbon-hydrogen and/or carbon-fluoride functionality; and
- 8 (b) one or more optically active chromophores blended and/or copolymerized
- 9 with said polymer, wherein said chromophore comprises:

10 first substituted azobenzenes

11

- Wherein D = donor = $-NH_2$, $-N(CH_3)_2$, $-N(CH_2CH_3)_2$, or $-N(Y)_2$ where Y =
- 13 alkyl alcohols, alkyl (hydrocarbon fluorocarbon) esters, or alkyl silane
- 14 derivatives;

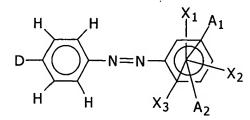
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- 16 A = acceptor = $-NO_2$, $-C(CN)C(CN)_2$, or -N=C(R1)(R2), wherein $R_1=CF_3$,
- 17 C_2F_5 , C_nF_{2n+1} , $R_2 = H$, CH_3 , CF_3 , C_2F_5
- wherein when $A = -NO_2$, or $-C(CN)C(CN)_2$, then X_1 , X_2 , X_3 , X_4 are each
- independently selected from the group -F and -H, and at least one -F is
- selected, and when A = -N=C(R1)(R2), wherein $R_1 = CF_3$, C_2F_5 , C_nF_{2n+1} , $R_2 =$
- 21 H, CH₃, CF₃, C₂F₅, then X₁, X₂, X₃, X₄ are each independently selected from
- 22 the group -F and -H;

23

24 or second substituted azobenzenes,

25



- Wherein D = donor = $-NH_2$, $-N(CH_3)_2$, $-N(CH_2CH_3)_2$, or $-N(Y)_2$ where Y =
- 28 alkyl alcohols, alkyl (hydrocarbon or fluorocarbon) esters, or alkyl silane
- 29 derivatives;

- 31 primary acceptor = $-NO_2$, $-C(CN)C(CN)_2$, or -N=C(R1)(R2), where $R_1=$
- 32 CF_3 , C_2F_5 , C_nF_{2n+1} , $R_2 = H$, CH_3 , CF_3 , C_2F_5

33

secondary acceptor = -CN, or $-CF_3$

- wherein if A_1 and A_2 are both primary acceptors selected from $-NO_2$, or
- $-C(CN)C(CN)_2$, then X_1 , X_2 , X_3 are each independently selected from -F and -
- 38 H, but at least one -F must be selected;
- wherein if A_1 and A_2 are both secondary acceptors selected from $-NO_2$, or
- $-C(CN)C(CN)_2$, then X_1 , X_2 , X_3 are each independently selected from -F and -
- 41 H, but at least one -F must be selected;
- 42 wherein if A_1 and/or A_2 are selected from the primary acceptor -N=C
- 43 (R1)(R2), where $R_1 = CF_3$, C_2F_5 , C_nF_{2n+1} , $R_2 = H$, CH_3 , CF_3 , C_2F_5 , then X_1 , X_2 , X_3
- are each independently selected from -F and -H; and
- wherein if A_1 is selected from any primary acceptor, and A_2 is selected from
- any secondary acceptor, then X_1 , X_2 , X_3 are each independently selected from
- 47 -F and -H.
- 1 29. A functional optical material for use in an optical system, comprising:
- 2 (a) a polymer selected from the group comprising,
- 3 (1) a thermoplastic polymer;
- 4 (2) a thermosetting polymer; and
- 5 (3) a combination of thermoplastic and thermosetting polymers;
- 6 wherein said thermoplastic and/or thermosetting polymers contain
- 7 carbon-hydrogen and/or carbon-fluoride functionality; and
- 8 (b) one or more optically active chromophores blended and/or copolymerized
- 9 with said polymer, wherein said chromophore comprises:
- 10 first substituted stilbenes

DHH
$$X_1$$
 X_2
 X_3
 X_4
 X_3
 X_4
 X_4

12 13

Wherein D = donor = $-NH_2$, $-N(CH_3)_2$, $-N(CH_2CH_3)_2$, or $-N(Y)_2$ where Y =

alkyl alcohols, alkyl (hydrocarbon fluorocarbon) esters, or alkyl silane

16 derivatives;

17

18 A = acceptor = $-NO_2$, $-C(CN)C(CN)_2$, or -N=C(R1)(R2), wherein $R_1=CF_3$,

19 C_2F_5 , C_nF_{2n+1} , $R_2 = H$, CH_3 , CF_3 , C_2F_5

wherein when $A = -NO_2$, or $-C(CN)C(CN)_2$, then X_1 , X_2 , X_3 , X_4 are each

21 independently selected from the group -F and -H, and at least one -F is

selected, and when A = -N=C(R1)(R2), wherein $R_1=CF_3$, C_2F_5 , C_nF_{2n+1} , $R_2=$

23 H, CH₃, CF₃, C₂F₅, then X₁, X₂, X₃, X₄ are each independently selected from

24 the group -F and -H;

25 26

or second substituted stilbenes,

27

- Wherein D = donor = $-NH_2$, $-N(CH_3)_2$, $-N(CH_2CH_3)_2$, or $-N(Y)_2$ where Y =
- alkyl alcohols, alkyl (hydrocarbon or fluorocarbon) esters, or alkyl silane
- 31 derivatives;

- primary acceptor = $-NO_2$, $-C(CN)C(CN)_2$, or -N=C(R1)(R2), where $R_1=$
- 34 CF₃, C₂F₅, C_nF_{2n+1}, R₂ = H, CH₃, CF₃, C₂F₅

35

secondary acceptor = -CN, or $-CF_3$

- wherein if A_1 and A_2 are both primary acceptors selected from $-NO_{2}$, or
- $-C(CN)C(CN)_2$, then X_1 , X_2 , X_3 are each independently selected from -F and -
- 40 H, but at least one -F must be selected;
- wherein if A_1 and A_2 are both secondary acceptors selected from $-NO_2$, or
- $-C(CN)C(CN)_2$, then X_1 , X_2 , X_3 are each independently selected from -F and -
- 43 H, but at least one -F must be selected;
- wherein if A_1 and/or A_2 are selected from the primary acceptor -N=C
- 45 (R1)(R2), where $R_1 = CF_3$, C_2F_5 , C_nF_{2n+1} , $R_2 = H$, CH_3 , CF_3 , C_2F_5 , then X_1 , X_2 , X_3
- are each independently selected from -F and -H; and
- 47 wherein if A_1 is selected from any primary acceptor, and A_2 is selected from
- any secondary acceptor, then X_1 , X_2 , X_3 are each independently selected from
- 49 -F and -H.
- 1 30. A functional optical material for use in an optical system, comprising:
- 2 (a) a polymer selected from the group comprising,
- 3 (1) a thermoplastic polymer;
- 4 (2) a thermosetting polymer; and
- 5 (3) a combination of thermoplastic and thermosetting polymers;
- 6 wherein said thermoplastic and/or thermosetting polymers contain
- 7 carbon-hydrogen and/or carbon-fluoride functionality; and
- 8 (b) one or more optically active chromophores blended and/or copolymerized
- 9 with said polymer, wherein said chromophore comprises:
- 10 first substituted imines,

DHH H
$$X_1$$
 X_2 A X_3

H H X_4 X_3

H H X_4 X_3

H CH=N X_4 X_3

H CH=N X_4 X_3

$$D \xrightarrow{H} H X_1 X_2 X_3$$

Wherein D = donor = $-NH_2$, $-N(CH_3)_2$, $-N(CH_2CH_3)_2$, or $-N(Y)_2$ where Y =

alkyl alcohols, alkyl (hydrocarbon fluorocarbon) esters, or alkyl silane

14 derivatives;

15

16 A = acceptor = $-NO_2$, $-C(CN)C(CN)_2$, or -N=C(R1)(R2), wherein $R_1=CF_3$,

17 C_2F_5 , C_nF_{2n+1} , $R_2 = H$, CH_3 , CF_3 , C_2F_5

wherein when $A = -NO_2$, or $-C(CN)C(CN)_2$, then X_1 , X_2 , X_3 , X_4 are each

independently selected from the group -F and -H, and at least one -F is

selected, and when A = -N=C(R1)(R2), wherein $R_1 = CF_3$, C_2F_5 , C_nF_{2n+1} , $R_2 =$

21 H, CH₃, CF₃, C_2F_5 , then X_1 , X_2 , X_3 , X_4 are each independently selected from

22 the group -F and -H;

23

24 or second substituted imines,

$$D \xrightarrow{H} CH = N \xrightarrow{X_1 \\ X_2 \\ X_3 \\ A_2}$$

$$D \xrightarrow{H} N = CH \xrightarrow{X_1 \\ X_2 \\ X_3 \\ A_2}$$

Wherein D = donor = $-NH_2$, $-N(CH_3)_2$, $-N(CH_2CH_3)_2$, or $-N(Y)_2$ where Y =

28 alkyl alcohols, alkyl (hydrocarbon or fluorocarbon) esters, or alkyl silane

29 derivatives;

30

26

primary acceptor = $-NO_2$, $-C(CN)C(CN)_2$, or -N=C(R1)(R2), where $R_1=$

32 CF_3 , C_2F_5 , C_nF_{2n+1} , $R_2 = H$, CH_3 , CF_3 , C_2F_5

33

secondary acceptor = -CN, or $-CF_3$

35

wherein if A_1 and A_2 are both primary acceptors selected from $-NO_2$, or

 $-C(CN)C(CN)_2$, then X_1 , X_2 , X_3 are each independently selected from -F and -

38 H, but at least one -F must be selected;

wherein if A_1 and A_2 are both secondary acceptors selected from $-NO_2$, or

 $-C(CN)C(CN)_2$, then X_1 , X_2 , X_3 are each independently selected from -F and -

41 H, but at least one -F must be selected;

42 wherein if A_1 and/or A_2 are selected from the primary acceptor -N=C

43 (R1)(R2), where $R_1 = CF_3$, C_2F_5 , C_nF_{2n+1} , $R_2 = H$, CH_3 , CF_3 , C_2F_5 , then X_1 , X_2 , X_3

44 are each independently selected from -F and -H; and

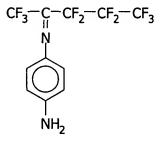
wherein if A_1 is selected from any primary acceptor, and A_2 is selected from

any secondary acceptor, then X_1 , X_2 , X_3 are each independently selected from

47 -F and -H.

- 1 31. A functional optical material for use in an optical system, comprising:
- 2 (a) a polymer selected from the group comprising,
- 3 (1) a thermoplastic polymer;
- 4 (2) a thermosetting polymer; and
- 5 (3) a combination of thermoplastic and thermosetting polymers;
- 6 wherein said thermoplastic and/or thermosetting polymers contain
- 7 carbon-hydrogen and/or carbon-fluoride functionality; and
- 8 (b) one or more optically active chromophores blended and/or copolymerized
- 9 with said polymer, wherein at least one chromophore comprises:

- 1 32. A functional optical material for use in an optical system, comprising:
- 2 (a) a polymer selected from the group comprising,
- 3 (1) a thermoplastic polymer;
- 4 (2) a thermosetting polymer; and
- 5 (3) a combination of thermoplastic and thermosetting polymers;
- 6 wherein said thermoplastic and/or thermosetting polymers contain
- 7 carbon-hydrogen and/or carbon-fluoride functionality; and
- 8 (b) one or more optically active chromophores blended and/or copolymerized
- 9 with said polymer, wherein at least one chromophore comprises:



- 1 33. A functional optical material useful in an optical system comprising: a
- 2 polymer of
- 3 (a) one or more partially or fully fluorinated first monomer(s) having a
- 4 refractive index of less than about 1.5, or wherein a homopolymer formed
- 5 from said first monomer(s) has a refractive index of less than about 1.5;
- (b) zero, one, or more second monomer(s) having a refractive index ≥ 1.5 , or
- 7 wherein a homopolymer formed from said second monomer(s) has a
- 8 refractive index \geq 1.5;
- 9 (c) at least one optically active chromophore;
- 10 (d) at least one compatibilizer for said optically active chromophore;
- (e) at least one adhesion promoter, having one or more pendant groups
- selected from the group consisting of nitriles, silanes, fluorinated silanes,
- organic acids; fluorinated organic acids, alcohols, fluorinated alcohols, amides,
- and amines; wherein when a compatibilizer with one particular pendant group
- is selected, an adhesion promoter with a different pendant group is selected.
- 1 34. A method of forming a functional optical material comprising:
- 2 A. determining if a low index of refraction material (n<1.5) or high index of
- 3 refraction material (n≥1.5) is desired,
- 4 B. for a low refractive index optical material
- (1) selecting one or more monomers having a low index of refraction;
- 6 (2) selecting zero, one, or more monomers having a high index of
- 7 refraction, wherein the concentration of the monomer(s) with a high
- 8 index of refraction is less than the concentration of monomer(s) having
- 9 a low index of refraction;
- (3) selecting zero, one or more optically active chromophores;
- (4) selecting zero, one, or more of conventional optical chromophores ,
- with the proviso that at least one chromophore must be selected;
- 13 (5) selecting one or more compatibilizers for the selected
- chromophore(s), having one or more pendant groups selected from the
- 15 group consisting of nitriles, esters, aromatics; fluorinated esters, and
- 16 fluorinated aromatics; and

17 (6) selecting one or more adhesion enhancers, having one or more pendant groups selected from the group consisting of nitriles, silanes, 18 fluorinated silanes, organic acids; fluorinated organic acids, alcohols, 19 20 fluorinated alcohols, amides, and amines; wherein when a 21 compatibilzer with one particular pendant group is selected, an 22 adhesion promoter with a different pendant group is selected; and 23 (7) mixing and reacting said selected monomer(s), chromophore(s), 24 compatibilizer, and adhesion enhancer. 25 C. for a high refractive index optical material 26 (1) selecting one or more monomers having a high index of refraction; 27 (2) selecting zero, one, or more monomers having a low index of refraction, wherein the concentration of the monomer(s) with a low 28 29 index of refraction is less than the concentration of monomer(s) having 30 a high index of refraction; 31 (3) selecting zero, one or more optically active chromophores; (4) selecting zero, one, or more of conventional optical chromophores, 32 with the proviso that at least one chromophore must be selected; 33 34 (5) selecting one or more compatibilizers for the selected 35 chromophore(s), having one or more pendant groups selected from the group consisting of nitriles, esters, aromatics; fluorinated esters, and 36 fluorinated aromatics; and 37 38 (6) selecting one or more adhesion enhancers, having one or more 39 pendant groups selected from the group consisting of nitriles, silanes, 40 fluorinated silanes, organic acids ????; fluorinated organic acids, 41 alcohols, fluorinated alcohols, amides, and amines; wherein when a compatibilzer with one particular pendant group is selected, an 42 43 adhesion promoter with a different pendant group is selected; and (7) mixing and reacting said selected monomer(s), chromophore(s), 44 45 compatibilizer, and adhesion enhancer.

- 1 35. The method according to Claim 34, wherein high T_g materials are
- 2 prepared by selecting and reacting fluorinated monomers with nonfluorinated
- 3 monomers.
- 1 36. A functional optical material for use in an optical system comprising:

F

F

CH=CH₂

O-(CH₂-O)n-R-Si(OMe)₃

O-EO

O-EO

P=N-
$$\frac{1}{x^2}$$

P=N- $\frac{1}{x^4}$

O-EO

F

F

CH=CH₂

CN (or COOH)

Low refractive index

Crosslinking capability

Adhesion promotion and additional crosslinking

- 4 wherein $x_1 = 50 80$ wt.%, $x_2 = 10 15$ wt.%, $x_3 = 1 5$ wt.%, $x_4 = 5$
- 5 20 wt.%
- 6 and wherein one or more of said -F atoms may be substituted by an -H atom.

1 37. A compound comprising:

$$\begin{array}{c} \mathsf{CH_3-C-CF_2-CF_2-CF_3} \\ \\ \mathsf{N} \\ \\ \mathsf{NH_2} \end{array}$$

2

38. A compound comprising:

$$\begin{array}{c} \mathsf{CF_3-C-CF_2-CF_2-CF_3} \\ \mathsf{N} \\ \\ \mathsf{NH_2} \end{array}$$